

Albert L. Zeck, 60

3-11-92

Albert L. Zeck was born June 24, 1931, in Conde to Milo and Hazel Roberts Zeck. He attended school in Conde and in Ypsilanti, Mich. He enlisted in the United States Army in 1951 and served with the 11th airborne during the Korean War. He was discharged in 1954.

He moved back to Conde and married Nancy Benson at Webster on May 24, 1955. They lived in Conde until 1960 when they moved to Hot Springs where he worked for the United States Forest Service. Ypsilanti, Mich., became their new home again in 1966. After carpenters built the frame of their new home, he completed it with the help of a neighbor. While there, he worked in plant security for General Motors for six years. General Motors was building M-16 military rifles during this time.

The crime rate was high at that time and he decided he did not want to raise his children in that environment. In addition, he had farming in his blood which was evident with the huge garden he planted while in Michigan. They moved back to Conde in 1972 where he re-started the Conde Locker Plant. They had groceries, meat and he did custom butchering. He also farmed northwest of Verdon.

Zeck was an avid fisherman and hunter and liked to work. As some say, he was a jack of all trades and master of none. He sided homes, did carpentry work, welded, and was very mechanically inclined. In 1976, all of that came to a sudden halt when he suffered a disabling stroke. He had no control of his eyes and his left side was mostly paralyzed. He managed to get around with a walker and wheel chair, but had to sell the locker plant. He continued to live in Conde for a few years, then moved to Aberdeen. The last three years, he lived in Groton, the first in an apartment. He suffered a kidney failure and spent some time in the VA hospital in Sioux Falls. It was suggested he have 24-hour care and was moved to Colonial Manor, Groton. During this time, he received special care from Linda Donovan.

Zeck died Wednesday, March 4, 1992. The funeral was held at the United Methodist Church, Conde, Monday, March 9, 1992 with the Rev. Donald Geiman officiating. Burial was in the Conde Cemetery under the direction of Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel, Groton. A prayer service was held March 2 in the funeral chapel.

Zeck was a member of the Conde United Methodist Church, a lifetime member of the Redfield VFW, a member of the American Legion, a past Commander of the American Legion in Hot Springs, past president of the Washtenaw County Law Enforcement Association in Ann Arbor, Mich.

He is survived by one son, John, and his wife, Gail Zeck, Conde; three daughters, Jody Coleman, Conde; Mrs. Terry (Joann) Kroger, Ellenton, Fla.; Mrs. Bruce (Janine) Lerew, Prescott Valley, Ariz.; two brothers, Morris Zeck, Garden City, S.D., Howard Zeck, Ann Arbor, Mich.; four sisters, Mrs. Ralph (Retha) Parker, Gregory, Mich.; Mrs. Lloyd (Laura) Mull, Dexter, Mich.; Doris Kosley, Farmington, Mich.; Dortha Cavanaugh, Chelsea, Mich.; six grandchildren, a special friend, Linda Donovan, who has cared for him the past year.

He was preceded in death by his parents and three brothers.

Casketbearers were Darrell Zeck, Robert Zeck, James Zeck, Charles Zeck, Jeremy Zeck, Don Zeck, Stanley Schulz. Helen Rossow was the organist and the Rev. Dean Trapp was the soloist. Wesley Grimes and Richard Sanderson were the ushers.

- Paul Irvin